

(b) If so, the details including the estimated cost thereof?

(c) whether the Union Government and the State Government have approved a time-bound and phased programme to construct the project jointly;

(d) If so, the the estimated expenditure proposed to be born by the Union Government and the State Government separately; and

(e) the time by which it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not anse.

[English]

Postal Services

•563 SHRI G M C. BALAYOGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any new system like Speed Post for better postal services in the rural, coastal and tnbal areas;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any new steps for the modernisation of the existing postal system in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Introduction to Speed Post to new cities/towns including tnbal, rural and coastal areas is an ongoing process keeping in view the customers needs, availability of suitable transmission network and traffic and Commercial viability.

(c) and (d). It is proposed in the 8th Plan to modernise the existing postal system by introducing mechanised sorting machines in metro cities, electronic money transfer and Computer based multipurpose counter machines in post office

Mulwada and Upper Tunga Projects

•564. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHABURS Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted Mulwada and Upper Tunga Project reports for World Bank assistance;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the area proposed to be irrigated from the projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not anse.

(c) The area proposed to be irrigated under Mulwadi Lift Irrigation Scheme is 29, 500 hectares and that under the Upper Tunga Project is 94,698 hectares

News in Regional Languages

•565 SHRIC. P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the news in Indian languages other than Hindi broadcast by the All India Radio, New Delhi can be heard only in the respective States:

(b) whether the Government propose to broadcast the same from New Delhi through low power transmitters for the benefit of persons from other regions living in the Capital:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) All India Radio, New Delhi originates Central News Bulletins in 17 Indian languages which are broadcast by the concerned All India Radio station in respective States/Union Territories. Of these the News Bulletins in Urdu and Punjabi are also broadcast from Delhi Station.

(b) and (c). A proposal for setting up of two FM transmitters at Delhi for the local broadcast of regional news bulletins, has been included in the draft 8th Five Year Plan. Implementation depends on the availability of resources.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Land Under Irrigation

*566. DR. MAHADEEP SINGH
SHAKYA:
SHRI H. D. DEVEGOWDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for identification of the irrigated/cultivable land in the various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total area of cultivable land in the country, State-wise;

(d) the total hectares of land brought under irrigation so far, State-wise;

(e) the total area proposed to be brought under irrigation by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(f) the amount proposed to be spent by the Government in each State during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The Minister of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is publishing on year to year basis Land Use Statistics which inter-alia include the State-wise details of irrigated lands, total cropped area, total culturable area. According to the latest available Land Use Statistics for the year 1988-89, out of the gross sown area of 180109 thousand hectares, gross irrigated area is 59329 thousand hectares which is about 33% of the gross sown area.

(c), (d) and (f). A Statement is give below.

(e) The Eighth Five Year Plan has not been finalised.